

Our Living and Our Dead

NEWBERN, N. C., AUGUST 27, 1873.

THE GROWING COTTON.

A Plain Statement of the Condition and Prospects of the Crop.

NEW ORLEANS, August 16.
Reports have been received by the Cotton Exchange, to the 10th of August, from the following States:

MISSISSIPPI.

Letters received from forty counties.—The weather has been less favorable than last year. The rain caused the abandonment of some lands. The plant is reported well formed and bolted. A few correspondents report damage from the caterpillar. Reports in regard to the area planted indicate that it is fully as large if not better than last year.

LOUISIANA.

The condition of the crops in this State is about an average, but picking will be fully two weeks later than last season, commencing about the 10th of September. Fifty letters were received from thirty parishes. The majority of our reports complain of excessive rains, and represent the weather as having been less favorable than last year. The plant is generally represented as being well fruited, though we have some complaints of shedding. The worms reported, but they have done little or no damage. The area under culture is estimated to be about equal to that of last season. Most of our correspondents give September 1st as the time that picking will probably commence, or say two weeks later than last year. The general condition of the crop is represented as being good.

TEXAS.

Fifty-one letters were received from forty-two counties. Most of our correspondents complain of too much rain, though the season will compare favorably with last year. The great majority represent the plant well formed and bolted. A few counties only report damage from the army worms, though their appearance is generally spoken of throughout the State. The area under cultivation at this date shows a marked increase over last year.—The condition is represented as good, though backward, and picking will not begin until September 1st, say three weeks later than last year.

ARKANSAS.

Forty-nine letters were received from thirty-three counties. The weather is reported dry and rather more favorable than last year. The plant, though small, is well formed and bolted; the same area is under cultivation as last year. Picking will not be general before September 20th. The condition is a fair average one. There are no reports of worms.

TENNESSEE.

Thirty-five reports have been received from twenty-five counties. The majority of reports are favorable in regard to the weather as compared with last year and represent that the plant is well formed and bolted. The area under cultivation shows a marked increase over last season. No worms are reported except in one county. The condition of the crops is decidedly promising. Picking will commence about the middle of September.

ALABAMA.

We have thirty-two letters from thirty counties. The weather has been more propitious and rather more favorable than last season. The plant is unanimously represented as fringing remarkably well by appearance. The army worm is reported in seventeen counties, but no damage has been done thus far except in the county of Marengo. The area under cultivation is about equal or possibly a better average than last year. Picking will be general in this State by the beginning of September, say about a week later than last year.—The indication is generally represented as good and promising.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Sixty-one letters received from forty-five counties. The weather has been more propitious than last year; in fact, it is all that could be desired, and the plant is represented as well formed and bolted.—There is no report of worms. The area under cultivation is larger than last year, and the condition is unanimously reported as promising. The picking will not be general before September 15th, against September 1st last year.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Twenty-two counties sent in thirty-two reports. The weather has been generally seasonable, as much so as that of last year, causing the plant to grow finely and bolt well. The average shows some increase over last season. Neither boll nor army worm is reported in any instance. Picking will probably commence in the early part of September. The general condition is good.

GEORGIA.

Ninety-seven letters have been received from seventy-eight counties. The weather has been generally favorable for the growth of the plant, and the improvement noticed in our last report has been continued, allowing planters to some extent to regain the delay experienced in the Spring. The season is reported as comparing favorably with last year, with very few exceptions. The plant though small, is represented as fringing remarkably well. The army worm has made its appearance in seventeen counties, but only in limited force, and no damage has been done. The area under cultivation exceeds that of last year. The general condition of the crop is reported as being flattering. Only seven of the letters show complaint, while all others represent the crop as very good and excellent. Picking will be general on September 1st, against 25th last year.

FLORIDA.

From this State we have received but three answers to our inquiries. They complain of perpetual rains, though reporting the plant well formed and bolted, and the condition of the crop equal to last year's. Caterpillars have made their appearance throughout this State, without however, causing damage. In regard to the average views differ from no increase compared with last season to four or five per cent. more. Picking will commence same time as last year—from the 15th to the 20th of August.

Punch has a pathetic picture of a married couple on a calling trip. As they wait at the door where they have rung the bell Augustus is thus cautioned: "Augustus love let me beg of you, do not give way to any insane demonstrations of delight before the servant if she says they ain't at home."

SOUTHERN HISTORICAL CONVENTION.

Special Telegrams to the Richmond Dispatch.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, Aug. 15, '73. This morning the Convention was called to order by Governor Letcher, the President. The proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

General Lilly moved that Governor Windham Robertson be invited to take a seat in the Convention. Adopted.

Governor Robertson responded in a few graceful remarks.

The Committee on business made a lengthy report, in which the object of the Society was fully set forth and defined. The chief object of the association seems to be to preserve the records and incidents of the war, and the report provides for the collection of

1. The histories of the Southern States.
2. Files of newspapers, periodicals, and magazines.
3. Geological, agricultural, and commercial reports.
4. Sermons and speeches relating to the late war.
5. Official reports.
6. The military mass.
7. Reports of invasions and arms.
8. Reports of adjutant-generals.
9. Naval operations.
10. Operations of the Nitro and Mining Bureau.
11. Commercial operations.
12. Foreign Relations.
13. Currency.
14. Medical Statistics.
15. Names of officers and men.
16. Names of wounded and dead.
17. Reports relating to civil prisoners.
18. All matters relating to "treatment of diseases."
19. Conduct of the hostile armies.
20. Southern poetry, ballads and songs.

Below is an abstract of the resolutions adopted:

1. That Richmond be adopted as the locality of the parent association, with auxiliary societies in States and districts.
2. That the Society proceed to elect officers with the objects and purposes set forth in the report.
3. That the organization retain its present basis.
4. Each vice-president *ex-officio*, president of the State Society.
5. The Secretary to have a fixed salary.
6. That the Society adopt some financial plan to carry out the purposes of the organization.
7. That the fee for annual members be three dollars; the life members, fifty dollars.
8. That the publications of material collected be made by magazines or occasional volumes of transactions.
9. That the thanks of the Convention be returned to the publishers of the Southern Magazine for its valuable contributions.
10. That the thanks of the Convention be returned to General Early for his admirable address.
11. That the Society proceed to the enrollment of members.
12. That all questions touching organization when a division is formed, each State will be entitled to two votes.

The Committee on the Appointment of Permanent Officers for the Society reported: For President General J. A. Early, of Virginia; Secretary, Col. George W. Munford, of Virginia; Vice-Presidents, Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, of Virginia; Gen. J. R. Trimble, of Maryland; Ex-Governor Vance, of North Carolina; General Colquhoun, of Georgia; Gen. Butler, of South Carolina; Admiral Semmes, of Alabama; General Hood, of Louisiana; Colonel Jack, of Texas; Ex-Governor Harris, of Tennessee; General Backner, of Kentucky; General Marmaduke, of Missouri; Hon. A. H. Garland, of Arkansas; General Martin, of Mississippi; Colonel W. C. of Florida; Hon. W. W. Corcoran, of District of Columbia.

The report was adopted and Gen. Early made a few remarks and returned thanks. He offered a resolution tendering the sympathy of the Convention to General Hardee in his illness, and a committee was appointed to visit General Hardee consisting of General Early, Governor Letcher, Admiral Semmes and General P. Lee.

General Pickett took his seat to-day. The Convention adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

MONTGOMERY, WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, Va., Aug. 16.—At 12 o'clock General Early called the Society to order and introduced Admiral Semmes. The Admiral said he felt the honor in being the first to address the Society. He would submit a paper in vindication of himself. He said his ship (the Alabama) had been called a pirate and a buccaner, but he would show that she was a regular ship-of-war commissioned by proper authority. The Alabama had warrants for all she did, and her conduct was fully justified by precedents from the United States. He said that on the first proposition he would say but little, and would confine himself chiefly to the second. He said the United States had applied to English builders for ships before he did, but that the Confederate authorities offered more. He said the Alabama had been armed and commissioned on the high seas. The whole question involved in the Alabama complications was discussed elaborately, evincing the most accurate information and learning. After leaving the legal argument he went into citation of various precedents furnished by the action of the United States in the war of 1776 and 1812. He said the Alabama had done nothing more than the naval authorities of the United States had directed in innumerable instances. There were grave charges against him, one was that he burned captured ships without authority of law; also, that he had violated his parole, and that he had foreigners on his ship. He refuted all these charges by indisputable facts and arguments. He said he was imprisoned for a month, and was confined to his quarters while the United States authorities were hunting up the evidence to convict him. He said that while the Alabama was built in England she was American all over. What our sires had done in their day, their sons had done in their day. The war is ended, if the nation exists we will have but one history, England has but one history. She had no history of the Red and White Roses. Our Confederate history will live for a generation or more. In five hundred years there will be no history of the Confederate States but of the whole country. Let us, then, preserve our records and archives. Our Society must not be sectarian. If our government is to be a government of the majority, without constitutional restrictions, our days are numbered; and when that day comes we will be vindicated and honored for our struggle for constitutional liberty, and if we

come back to the old form of constitutional government our course will commend itself to all men. We are destined to become a people with one history. Let us show magnanimity. If fame has been gained on either side, let us perpetuate it. Let us pursue that moderate course, and give credit where credit is due. By the standard of truth he was willing to be judged. The conclusion of his address was eloquent and touching. He said that the Alabama sleeps in the bosom of the British channel that sleep of death which her commander will sleep in a short time at most, as he trusts in the bosom of his native soil. If history embalms the struggle of the old thirteen colonies, so it will enshrine our own immortal struggle. His address greatly impressed the large and appreciative audience. There was no bitterness, but an able, temperate, conclusive vindication of the truth of history.

General Early made a few remarks to the ladies. He wanted their assistance, and desired them to enroll the names of their beloved dead. His remarks were very humorous, and excited much laughter and applause. He said on one occasion he visited the headquarters of General Lee, and was abashed when he saw two ladies. General Lee told him that he and General Edward Johnson could act as escorts to them. This was one of the times he skulked.

He opened the doors of the Society to all true men who had stood by their colors during the war and who stood by them now.

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1st of October, 1873.

For Circulars address (until 25th of August), R. H. CHAPMAN, Morehead City, N. C. After that date, address him at Charlotte, N. C. Aug. 16-2nd.

TO THE SUCCESSFUL COUNTY, \$100.

To that County of the State which shall furnish the largest subscription list, in proportion to population, (not less than one hundred), ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, to be applied as the subscribers may choose. The award to be made on 1st of October, and all subscriptions received in any manner, to be credited to the county.

TO MEMORIAL ASSOCIATIONS, \$50.

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TO LITTLE GIRLS, \$15.

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